

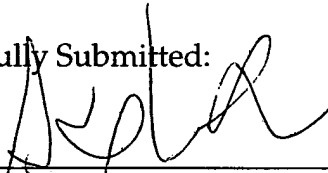
**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is provided before receipt of any substantive Office Action on the merits in this case and to present amended and new claims for the Examiner's kind consideration. No new matter has been presented.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner favorably receive this Preliminary Amendment, entering same into the record and proceeding with the examination of this case on the merits.

Dated: October 15, 2003

Respectfully Submitted:



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